

Sputnik Spy

By REP. GLENARD LIPSCOMB (R-Calif.)

A news dispatch from London dated Oct. 2, 1967, reports the disclosure that a former top British intelligence official, a Harold Philby, had served as a Soviet spy for 34 years. He, it is reported, is now in Moscow, having vanished from Beirut four years ago while working as a correspondent. This disclosure points once again to the seriousness of the menace represented by the worldwide Soviet espionage system.



But there is another aspect of the article that is deserving of attention. The very last paragraph of the lengthy dispatch states: "It was reported that Philby, who is now employed by the Soviet feature agency Novosti, may be working on the new English language digest magazine *Sputnik*, which is due to appear in Britain later this year."

What is probably not widely known is that the Soviet magazine, *Sputnik*, on which it is reported this former spy is working, is at present being distributed in the United States and has been dis-

tributed here on a monthly basis since January. When news of this came out I took up the matter with the Department of State on the basis that if this Soviet publication is being disseminated in our country, what has been done or will be done toward achieving reciprocity to distribute United States publications in the USSR? At best, the response has been unsatisfactory. I am advised the matter has been taken up with the Soviets, but repeated inquiries as to the results have made it abundantly clear that little if any progress has been made toward this end.

When the *Sputnik* magazine first was distributed in the United States attempts were made to pass it off as solely a commercial venture. I believed then that *Sputnik* is a vehicle to disseminate official propaganda of the Communist party and the disclosure that a former Red spy is working on the magazine certainly reinforces that belief.

Clearly we should receive similar concessions from the Soviets in the way of distributing United States publications in the USSR. I do not mean, however, distribution of any sort of "official" magazine, which could be subjected to controls. That type of exchange would be of limited usefulness for—as is well known—what Soviet citizens read is already strictly controlled by the Soviet government. Our regular publications, produced by a free people in our free society, are what should be distributed.